DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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TO THE INDUSTRY MEMBER ADDRESSED

On July 21, 2005, Governor Schwarzenegger signed into law Senate Bill 76 (Chapter 91, Statute of 2005). The goal of this new law is to support the development of a network of hydrogen refueling locations in California. Thereby reducing California's dependency upon oil and supporting the use of alternative fuels. The new law also recognized the importance of a consistent high quality fuel to prevent the fouling or failure of fuel cells or internal combustion engines. The Department, in concurrence with the California Air Resources Board is mandated by January 1, 2008 to establish standards for hydrogen, for use in fuel cells and internal combustion engines.

The Department is required to adopt by reference the latest standards for hydrogen established by an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited standards development organization. If such a standard has not been developed, the Department is required to develop interim standards. The Department has determined that no ANSI accredited standards development organization has established standards for hydrogen fuel used in fuel cell or internal combustion motor vehicles. Therefore, the Department proposes to establish interim standards for hydrogen fuel.

Before starting the formal adoption process, the Department is seeking comments from interested parties. A copy of the proposed draft regulations is attached. Please review them and provide your written comments by October 1, 2006.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact John Mough, Chemist at (916) 229-3054 or via email at: jmough@cdfa.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Mike Cleary

Director